
STRATEGIC PLANNING
FOR DOWNTOWN
RALEIGH'S FUTURE
DEVELOPMENT

**DOWNTOWN VISION
MEETING**

May 21-22, 2014

THE RALEIGH DOWNTOWN PLAN

Downtown Plan Timeline

Kickoff Meeting

Kickoff

Feb.



Analysis

March



Downtown Vision Session

Downtown Vision



TODAY!
Downtown Districts Vision Session

District Visions

April

Issues, Opportunities,
and Constraints Report



Wrap-up presentation

Downtown Master Plan

Sept./Dec.



Planning for Raleigh (online engagement site)

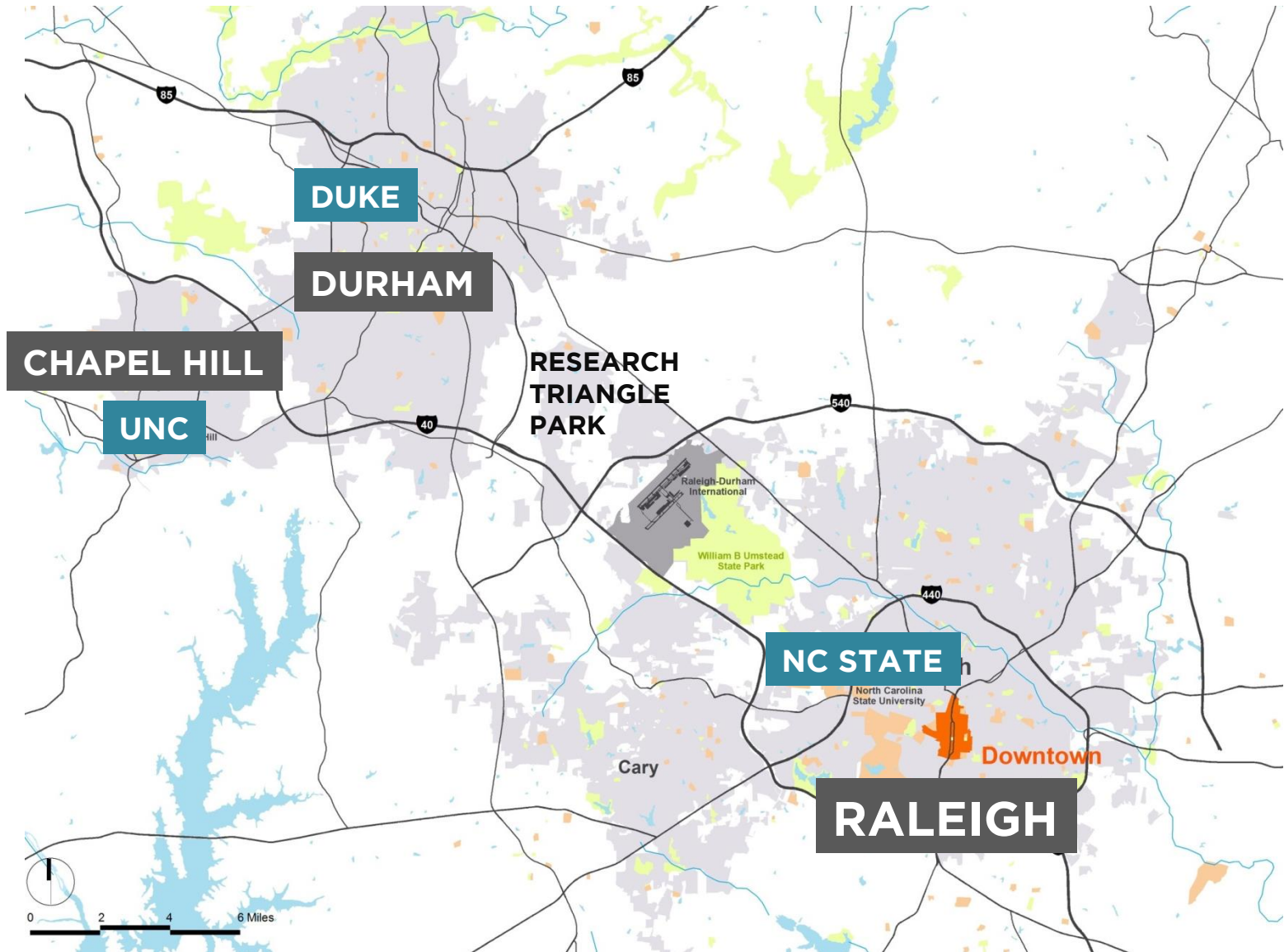


AGENDA

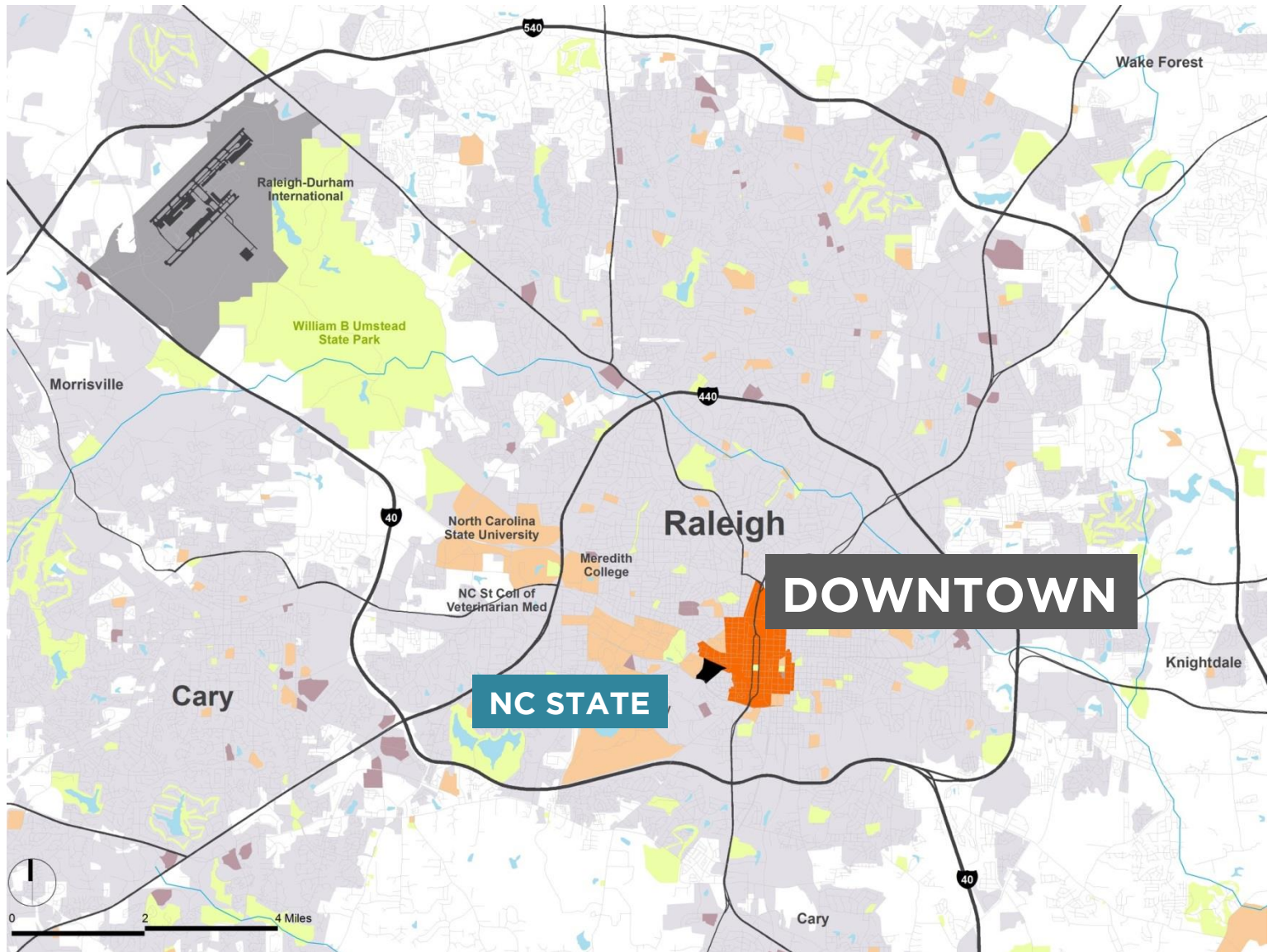
1. Welcome & Introduction
2. Downtown + the Districts
3. Community Visions for Downtown
4. Your District

DOWNTOWN + DISTRICTS

DOWNTOWN'S ROLE IN THE REGION



DOWNTOWN'S ROLE IN THE CITY





Working



Dining, Shopping, & Entertainment



Visiting



Moving

Growing Up & Growing Old



Living



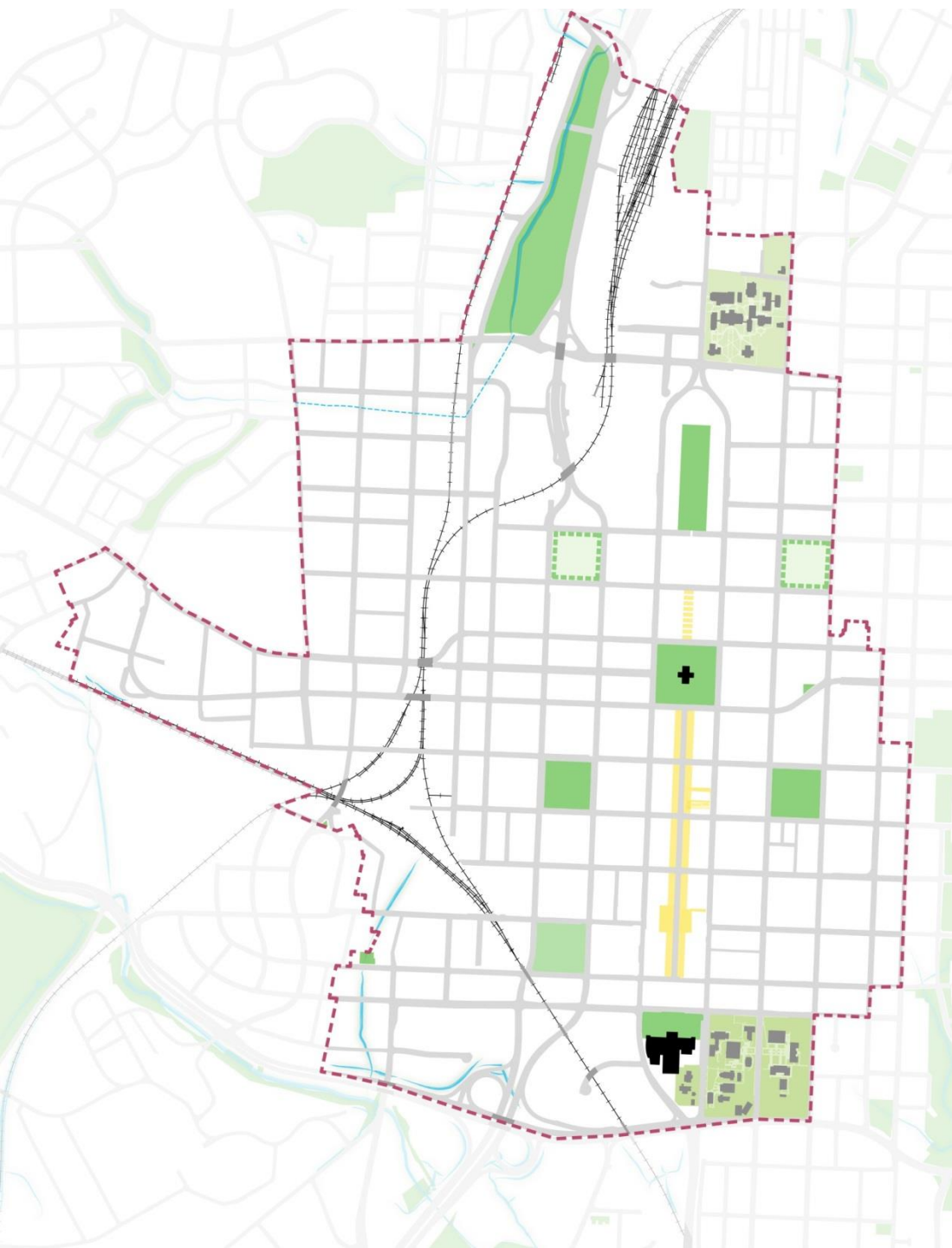
Creating



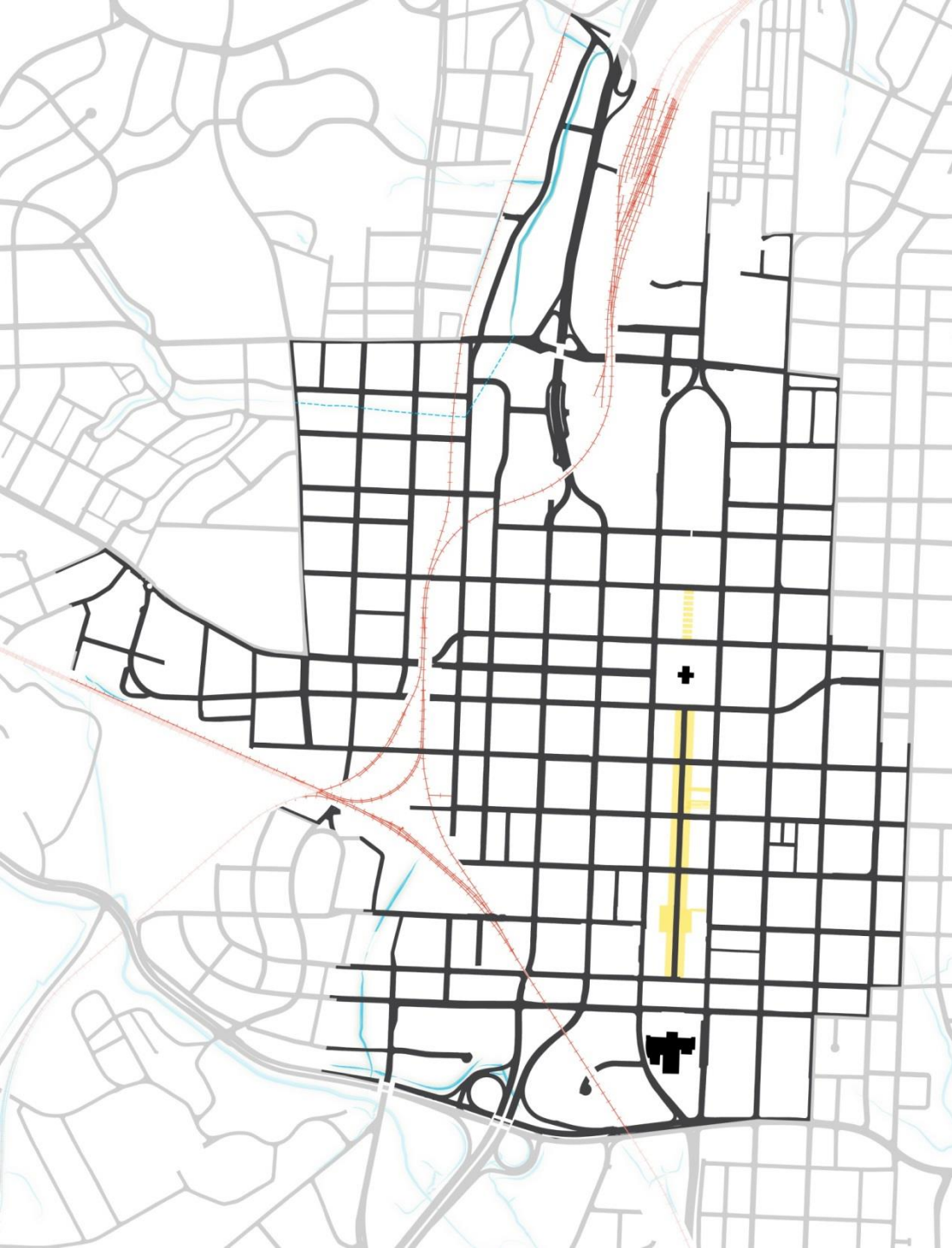
Innovating



How does
Downtown's urban
place add up to the
Raleigh Experience?

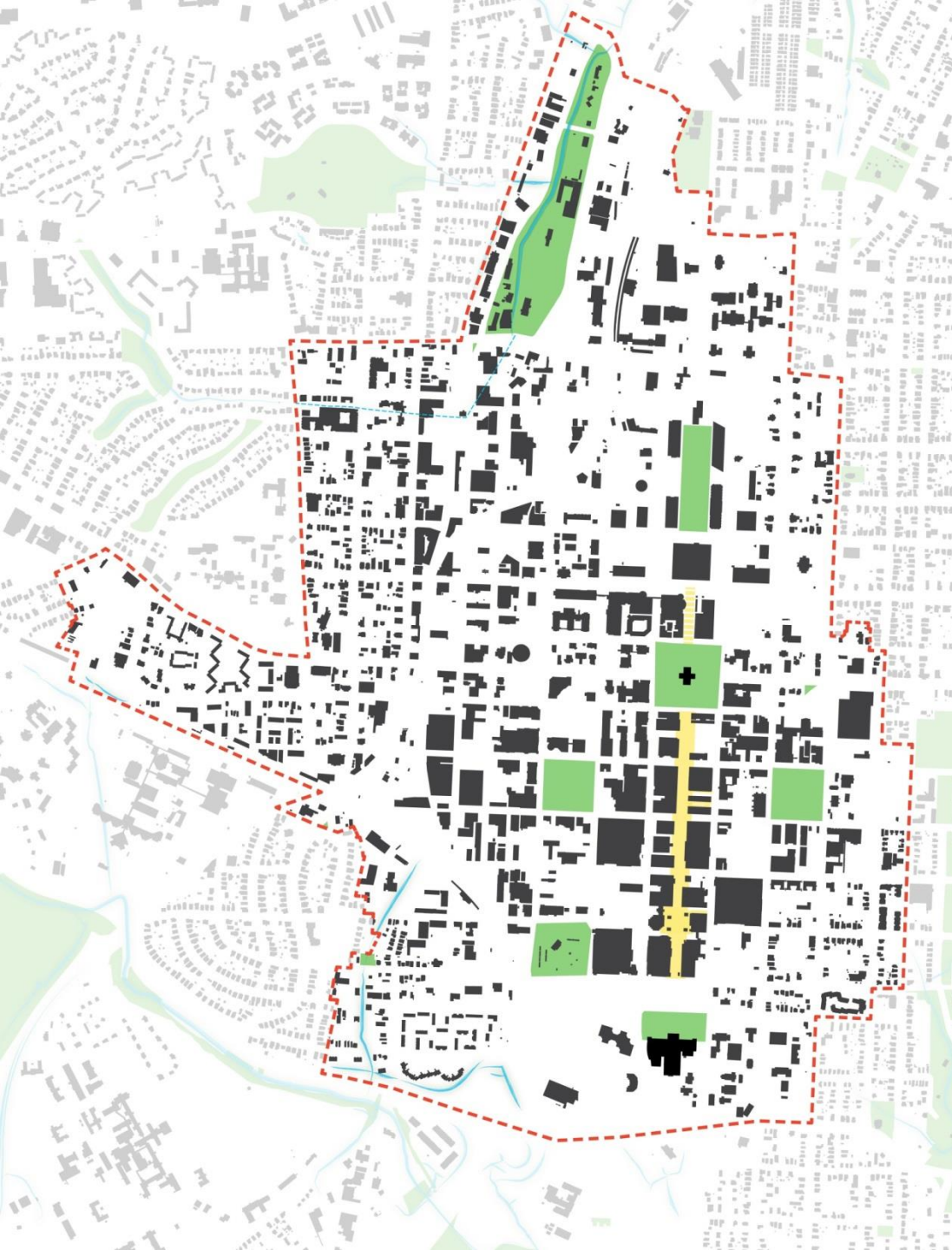


DOWNTOWN RALEIGH



STREET GRID

- Early planning led to a clear orthogonal street grid
- Grid is intersected by rail



BUILDING PATTERN

- Density focused around Fayetteville
- Density gradient reduces at edges
- Building footprints reinforce the street grid



TOPOGRAPHY

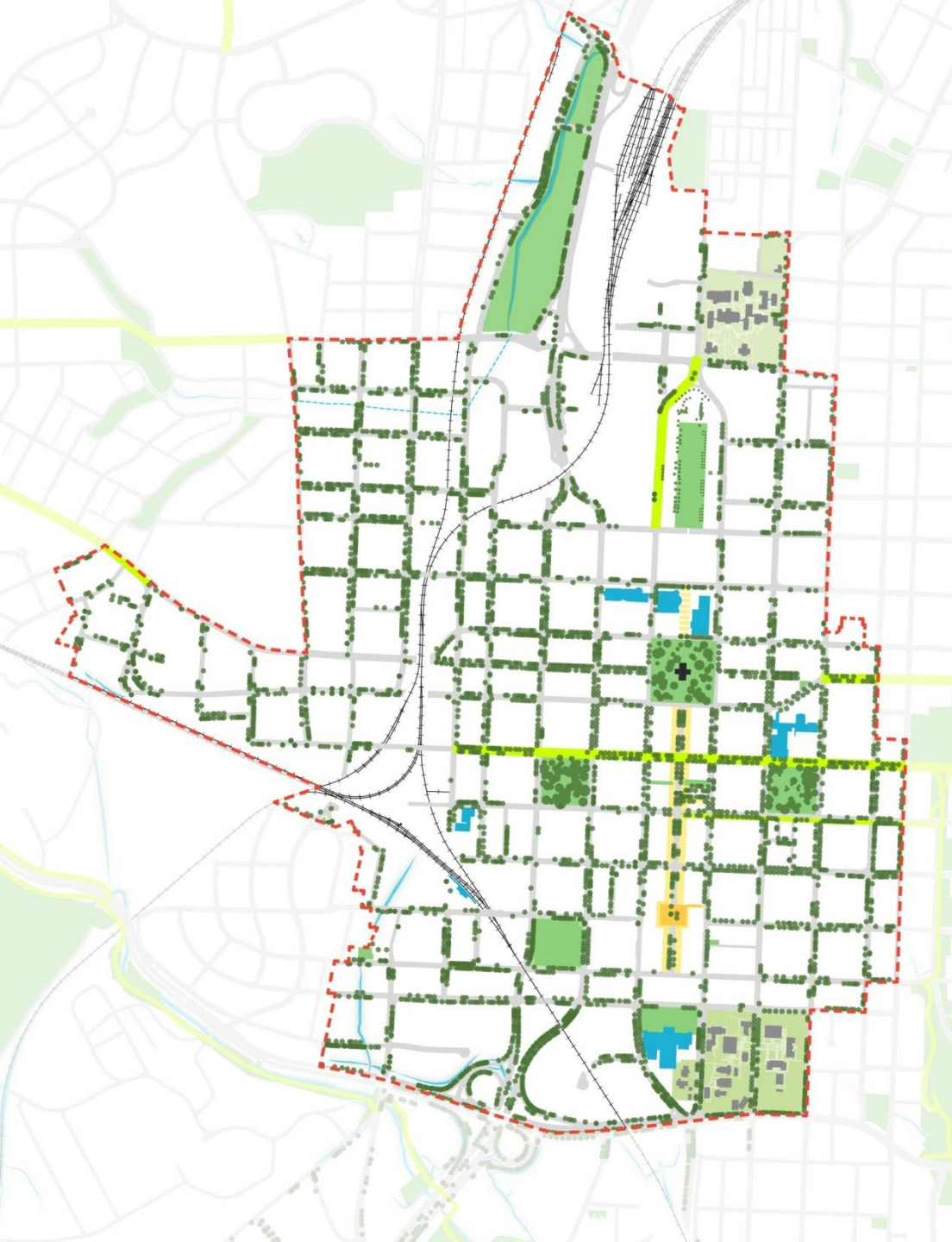
- Modest topography
- State Capitol is 2nd highest point in Downtown (behind St. Mary's School)
- Low points focused around rail & edges, where creeks are

Elevations in Feet

	420 - 440
	400 - 420
	380 - 400
	360 - 380
	340 - 360
	320 - 340
	300 - 320
	280 - 300
	260 - 280
	240 - 260
	220 - 240
	200 - 220

Stream Condition

	Stream
	Canal / Ditch
	Connector
	100-Year Floodplain

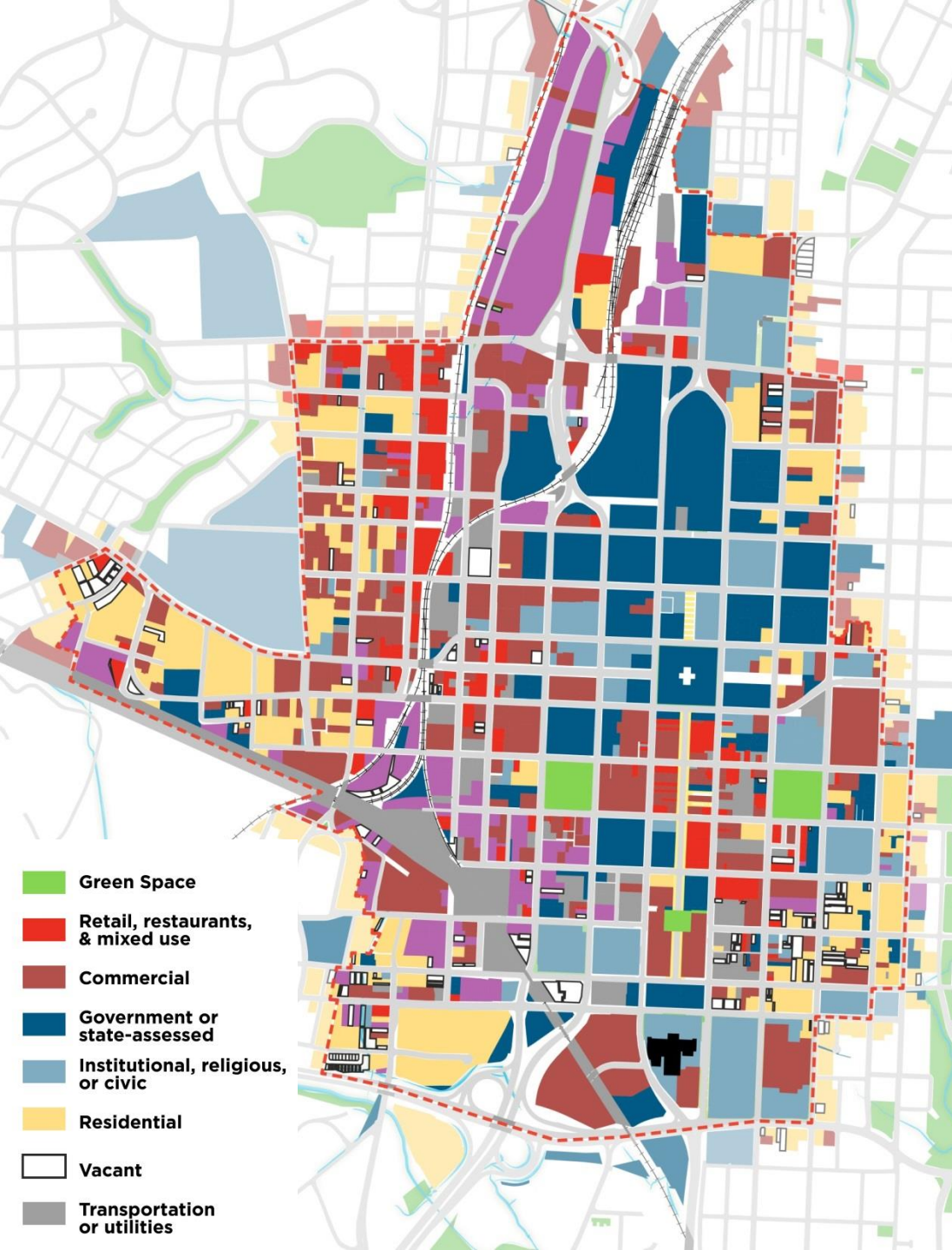


CIVIC SPACE

- Green space is lacking, particularly in Glenwood South
- Nash and Moore Square are underutilized
- Pocket parks and sidewalks meet some needs
- Pigeon House Creek and Dix are key opportunities

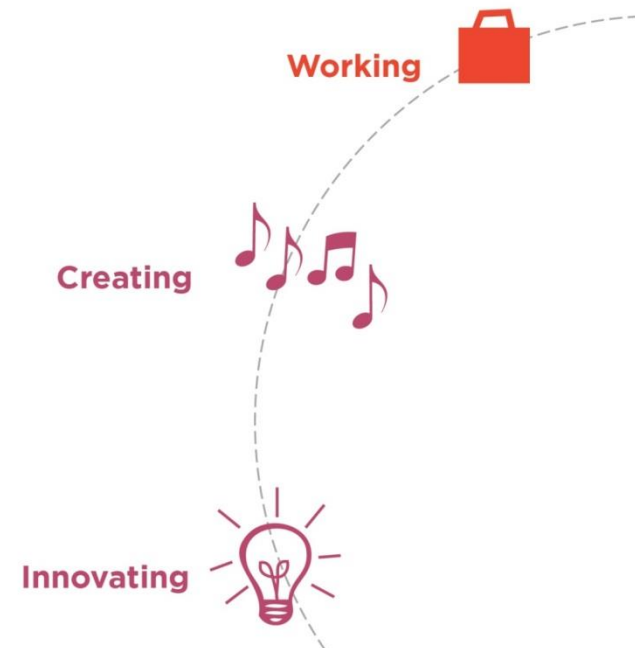


Greening



MIXED USE DISTRICTS

- Residential largely at edges
- Government offices predominate in the Capital District
- Glenwood and Fayetteville are key retail streets



“If you want urban open spaces to work overtime, you want them working at night.”

-Urban Land Institute



RALEIGH AFTER DARK

- Street lights and active ground floors in some zones create a safe, vibrant nighttime atmosphere



Dining, Shopping, & Entertainment



Visiting



RALEIGH AFTER DARK

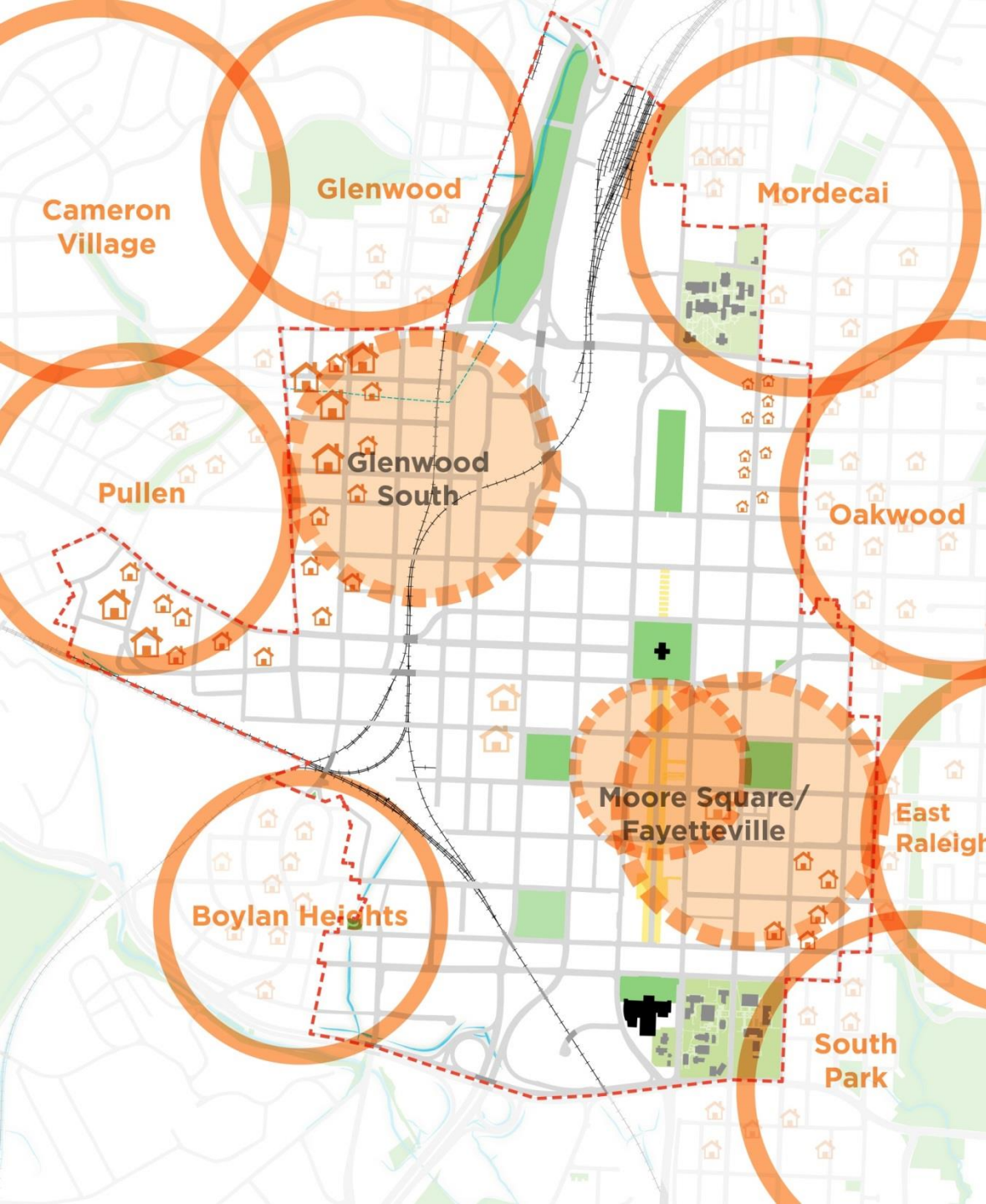
- Dark spots are areas with limited active uses
- “Dark blocks” interrupt connections between districts and attractions



Dining, Shopping, & Entertainment



Visiting



DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOODS

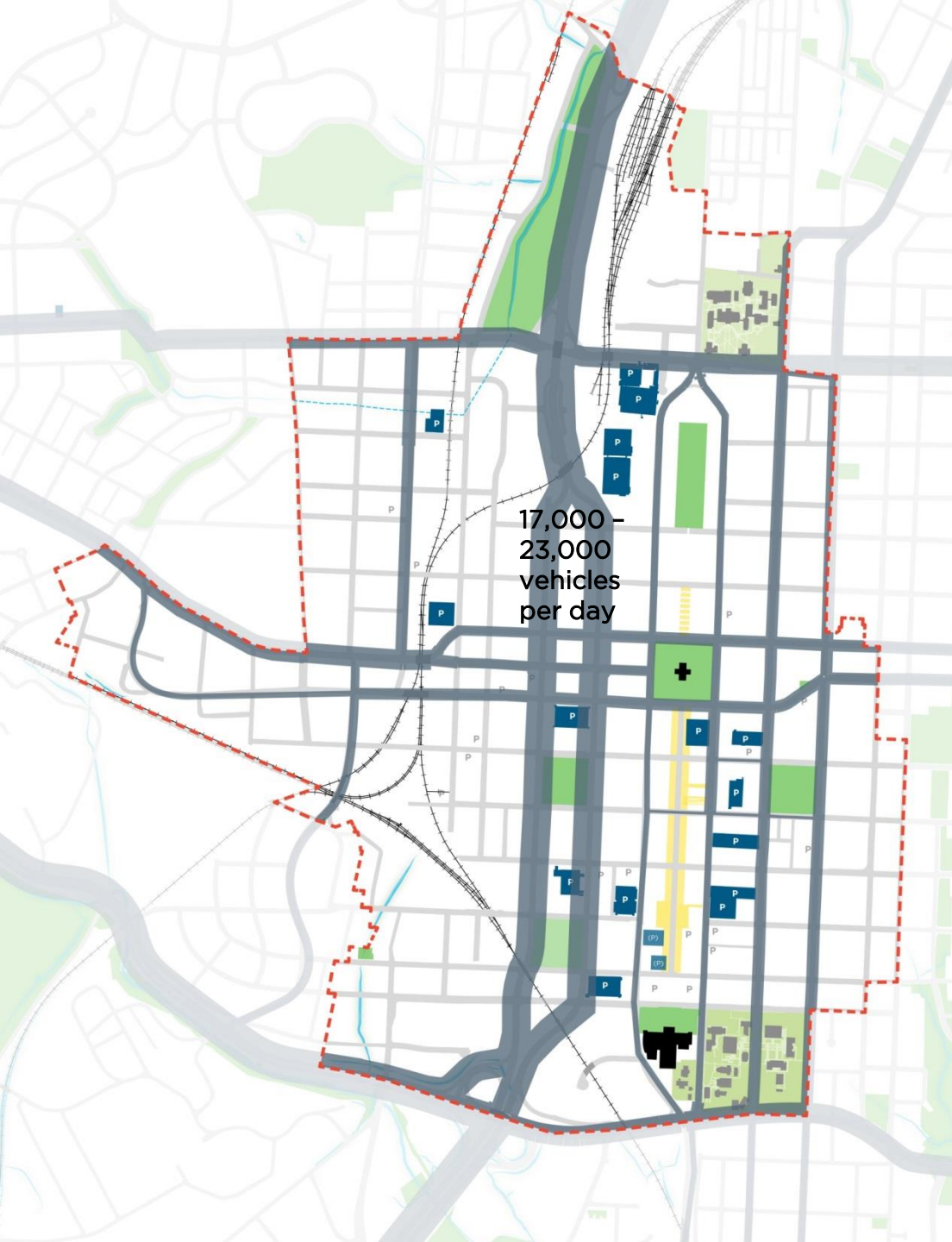
- Growing, residential hubs in downtown
- Surrounded by urban neighborhoods

Living



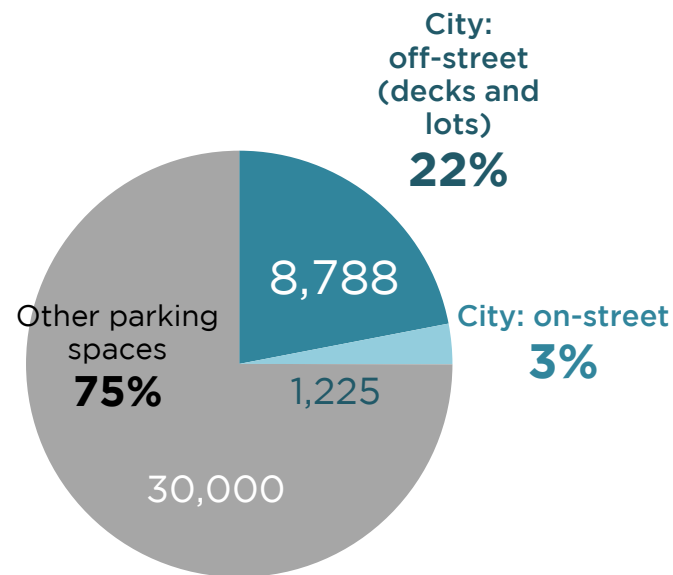
Growing Up & Growing Old





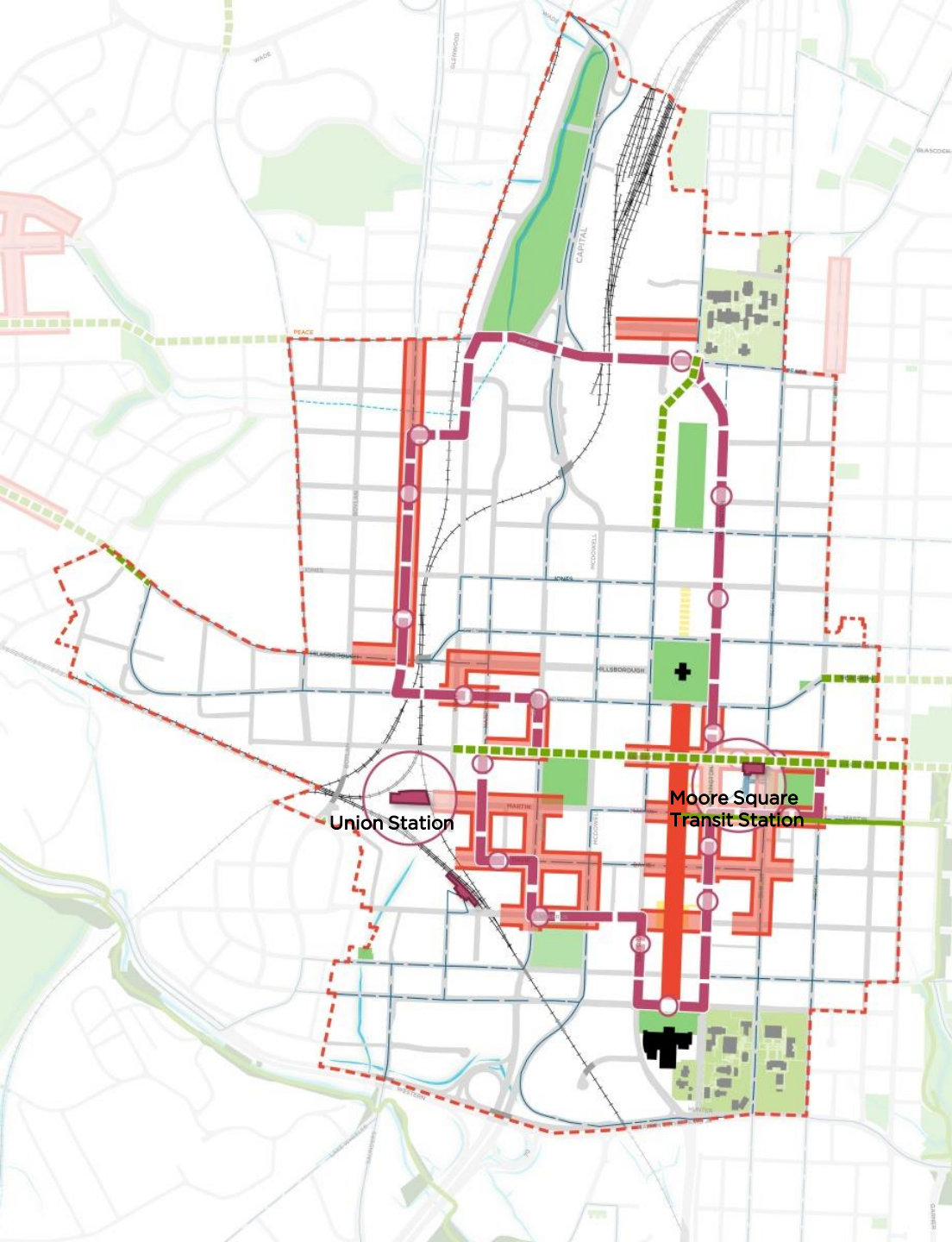
MOVING DRIVING & PARKING

- Need for a city garage in Warehouse district
- Potential for greater shared parking?



Parking





MOVING

WALKING & BIKING & BUSES

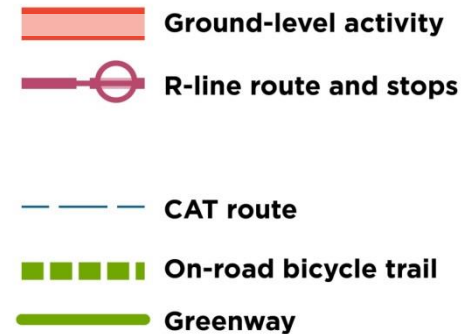
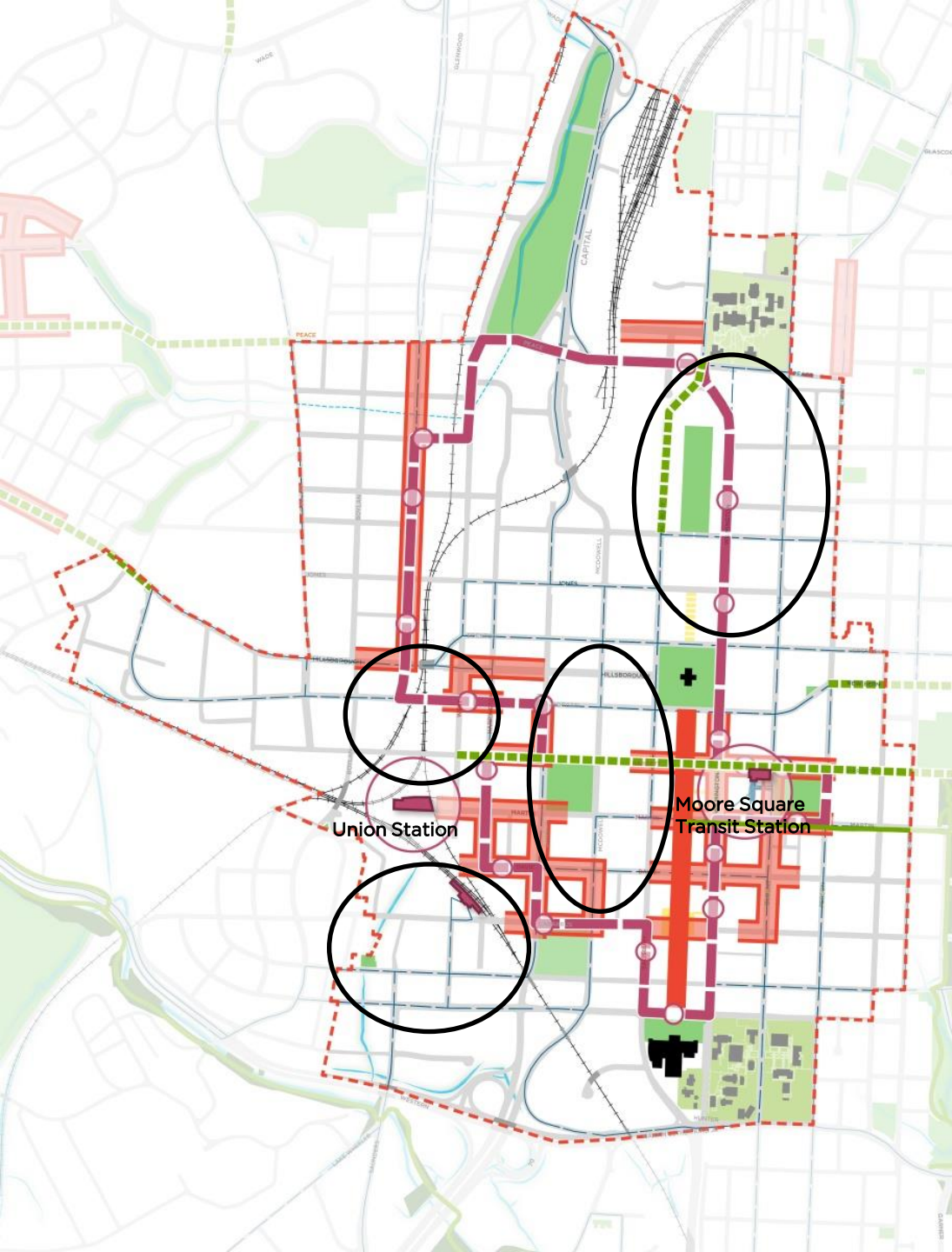
- R line serves main walkable zones
- Two future downtown transit hubs will influence development and uses
- Potential for more robust trail / bicycle system

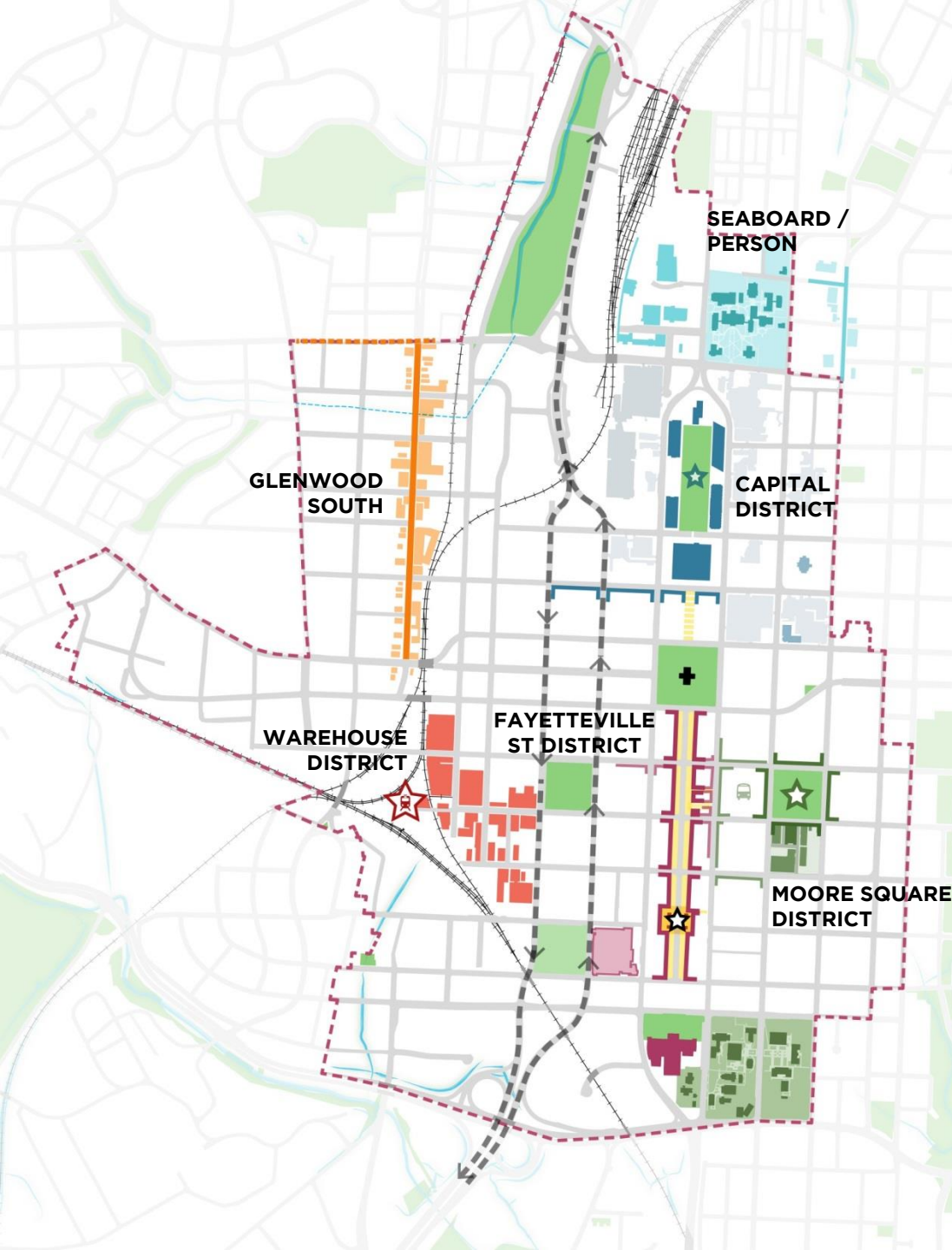


MOVING

WALKING & BIKING & BUSES

- “Activity Gaps” are areas where existing street level activity is interrupted

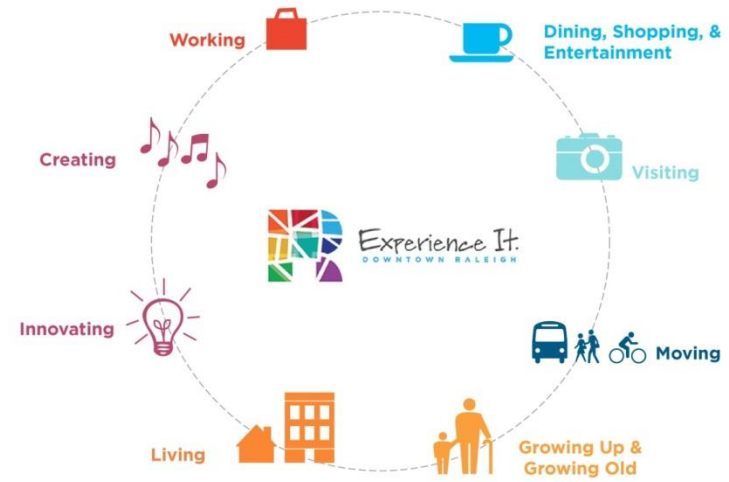
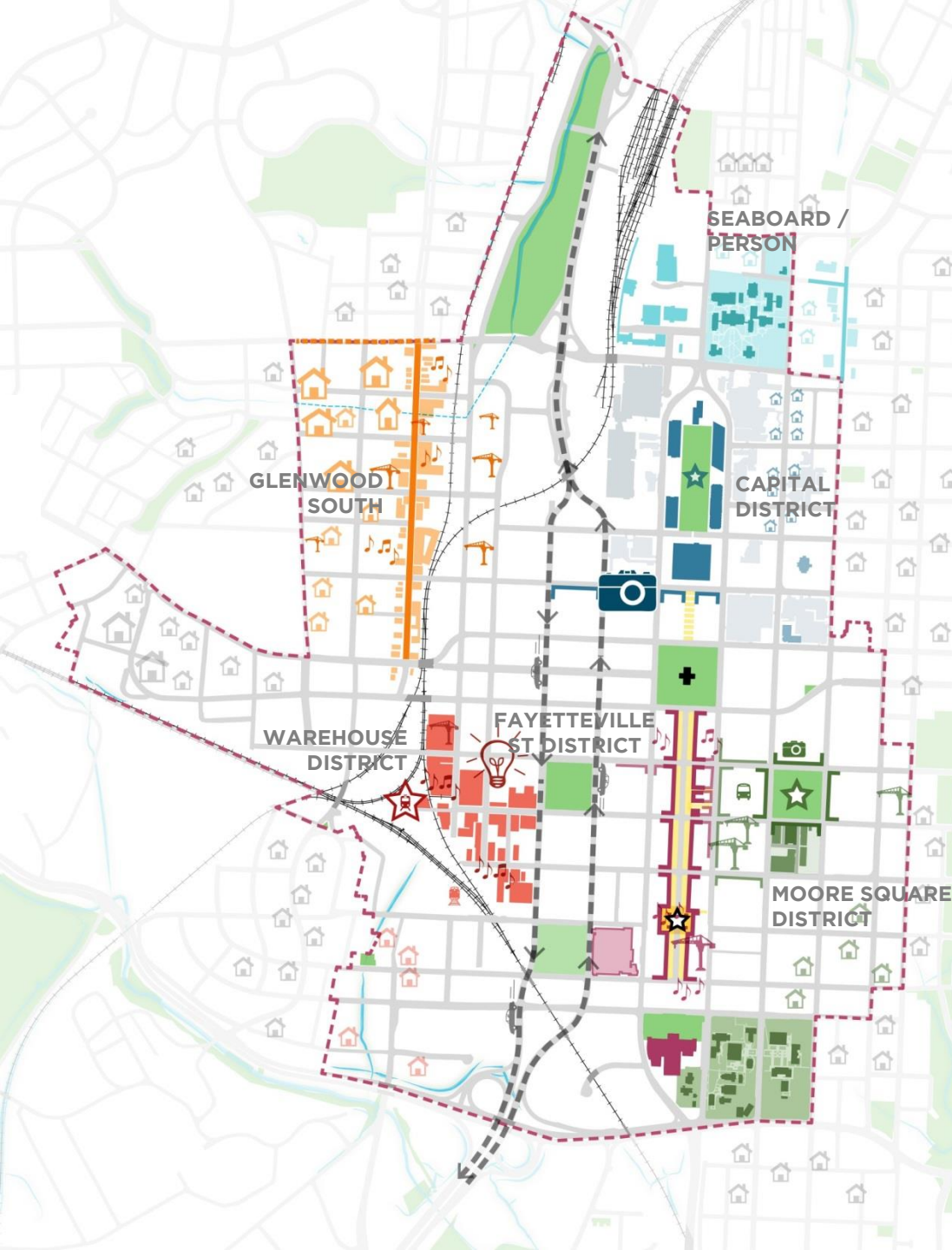




RALEIGH EXPERIENCE

- How can each district identity be strengthened, revised, and better connected?

DOWNTOWN DISTRICTS



Sustain & Grow



What assets need to be protected or enhanced to keep downtown's identity intact?



What elements need to be created anew to help Raleigh thrive and compete?

Connect & Unify



What needs to be better connected?
How can we make that happen?

3. Connect & Unify



Raleigh Experience



1. Sustain & Grow



DOWNTOWN VISION

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

A VISION STATEMENT FOR DOWNTOWN

“DOWNTOWN IS THE HISTORIC, FUNCTIONAL, & SYMBOLIC HEART OF RALEIGH.”

2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

TOP VISION STATEMENTS FROM DOWNTOWN VISION MEETING

- Raleigh—layering experience, sustainability and accessibility for all
- To make Downtown Raleigh the #1 destination for the day and night, a weekend, or the rest of your life
- Attractions for all ages – not just the younger generation
- The center of creativity, history, culture, that is evolving, family friendly, collaborative, embracing and fascinating and growing into a big city
- Raleigh – a place for everyone to gather, grow up and connect




[illegible]

Dorothy Dix
the part for schools
Safe walkable ways
to get downtown
Greenway coming up

FREE COUNTRY
PAINT

Add
more

 what a fun present
under the tree
• ROOSTING IN 10% OUT
Cordless heat is so affordable

Legend

- Downtown Landmarks
- Existing Streams
- Existing Greenways & Trails
- Existing R-Line Route

Green belt connecting N,S, E, W and cultural, historic and financial with bike and ped friendly areas including Pigeon House Creek

CONNECTIONS

Better walkability & bikability

Connectivity

Transit and ped/bike connection improvements to DT from surrounding areas

More retail

More retail

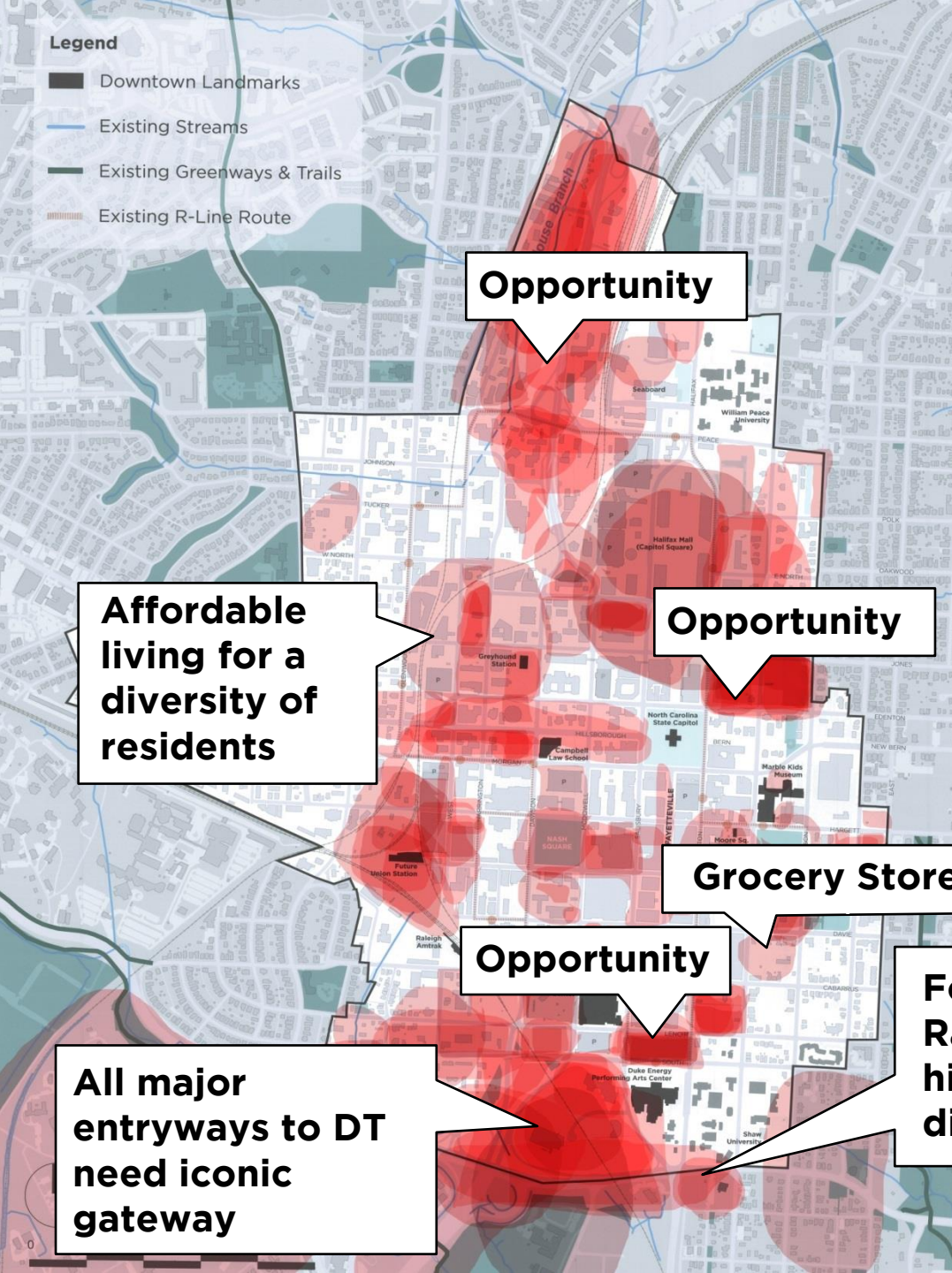
Continue the street grid, take out MLK interchange

Connecting green spaces



0 0.1 0.5 Miles

OPPORTUNITIES



GREEN SPACE

Legend

- Downtown Landmarks
- Existing Streams
- Existing Greenways & Trails
- Existing R-Line Route

Pocket parks

Consolidate state employees into highrise and redevelop; activate Halifax Mall

Green the city. No more surface parking lots, cover them with green or other use.

More green

Activate

Activate

Water feature

Park

Create a variety of greenspaces with a diversity of active and passive uses



DISTRICT CHARACTER



CAPITAL DISTRICT

Government buildings and
beautifully restored historic
homes of Blount Street



FAYETTEVILLE STREET DISTRICT

Central Business District of
Raleigh, skyscrapers and
high density



MOORE SQUARE DISTRICT

Eclectic array of ethnic cuisines, entertainment destinations, galleries, and retail

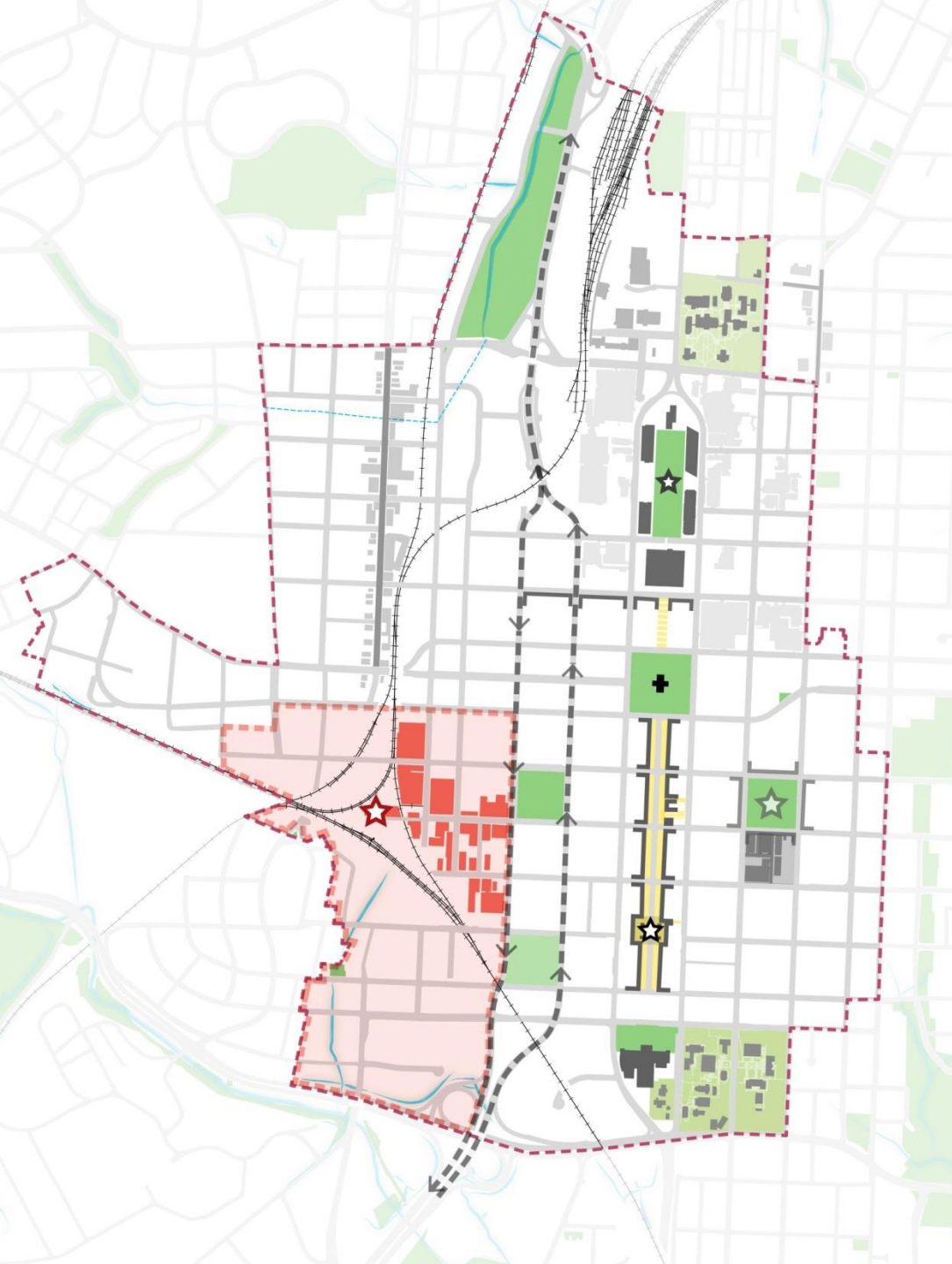




GLENWOOD SOUTH DISTRICT

Neighborhood feel, anchored by bars and clubs and eclectic, locally owned shops and restaurants





WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

Concentrated creative energy
and the future Union Station



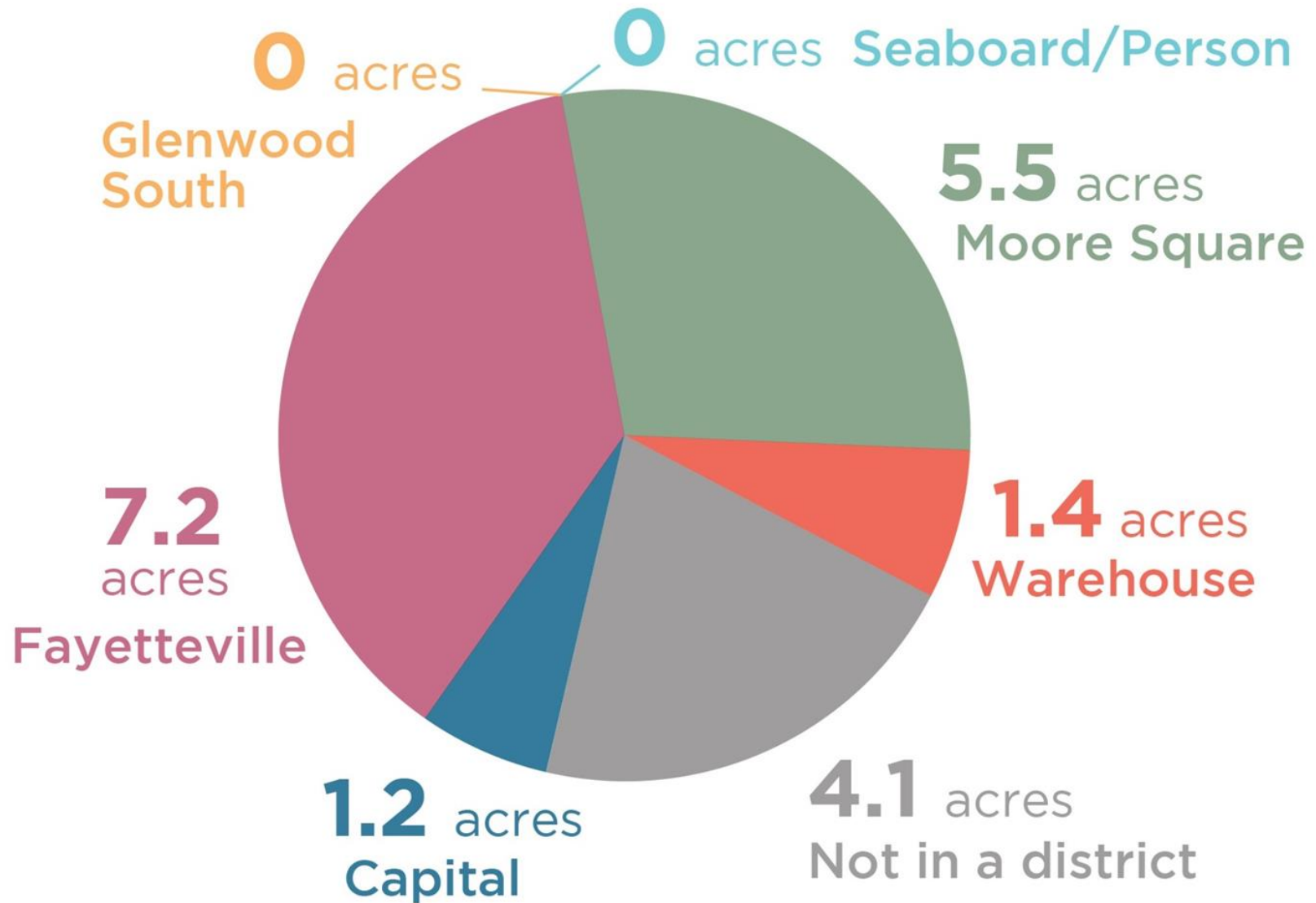


SEABOARD/PERSON

Emerging shopping destination with a local dining scene and William Peace University



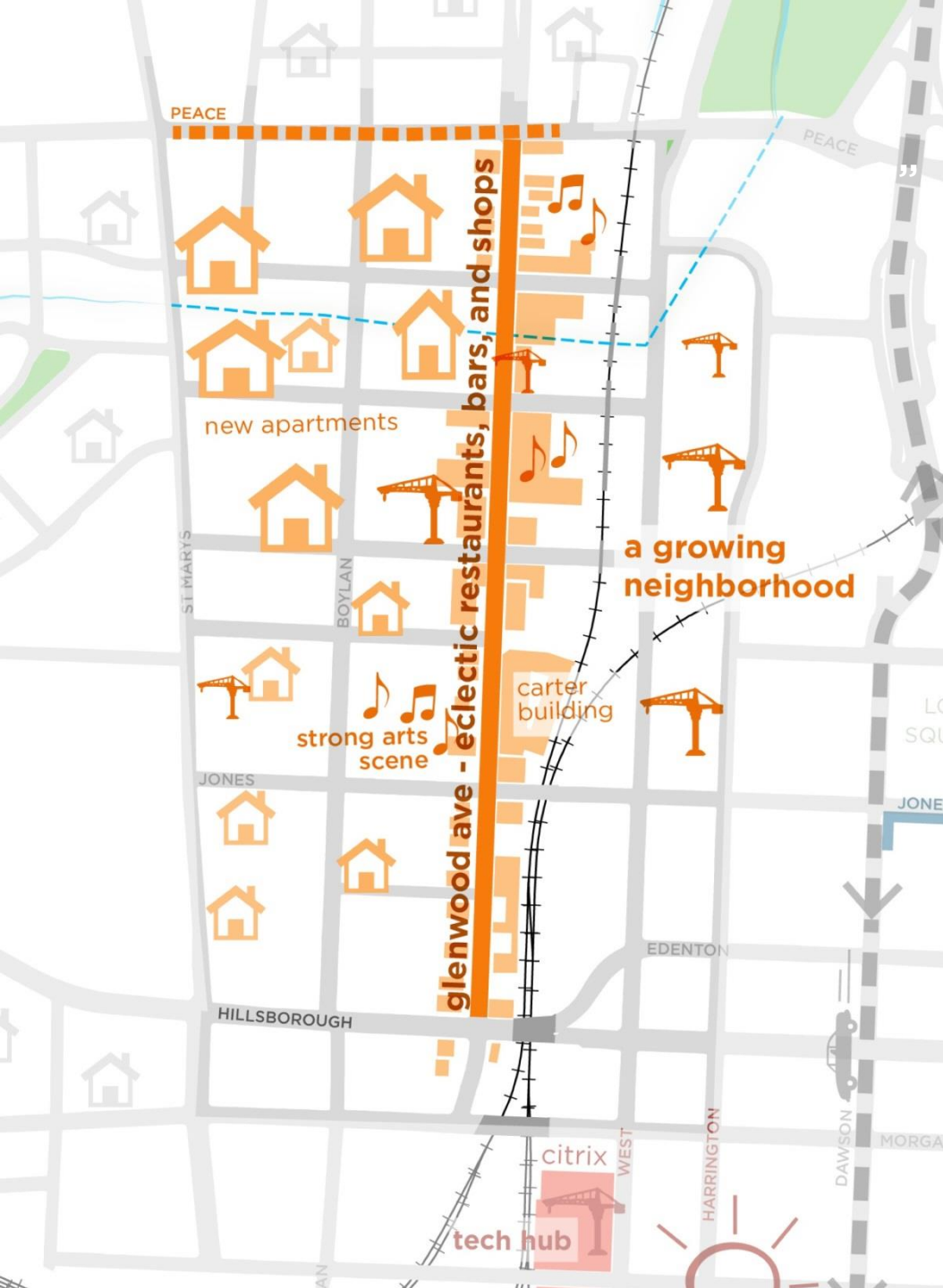
City-owned Opportunity Sites



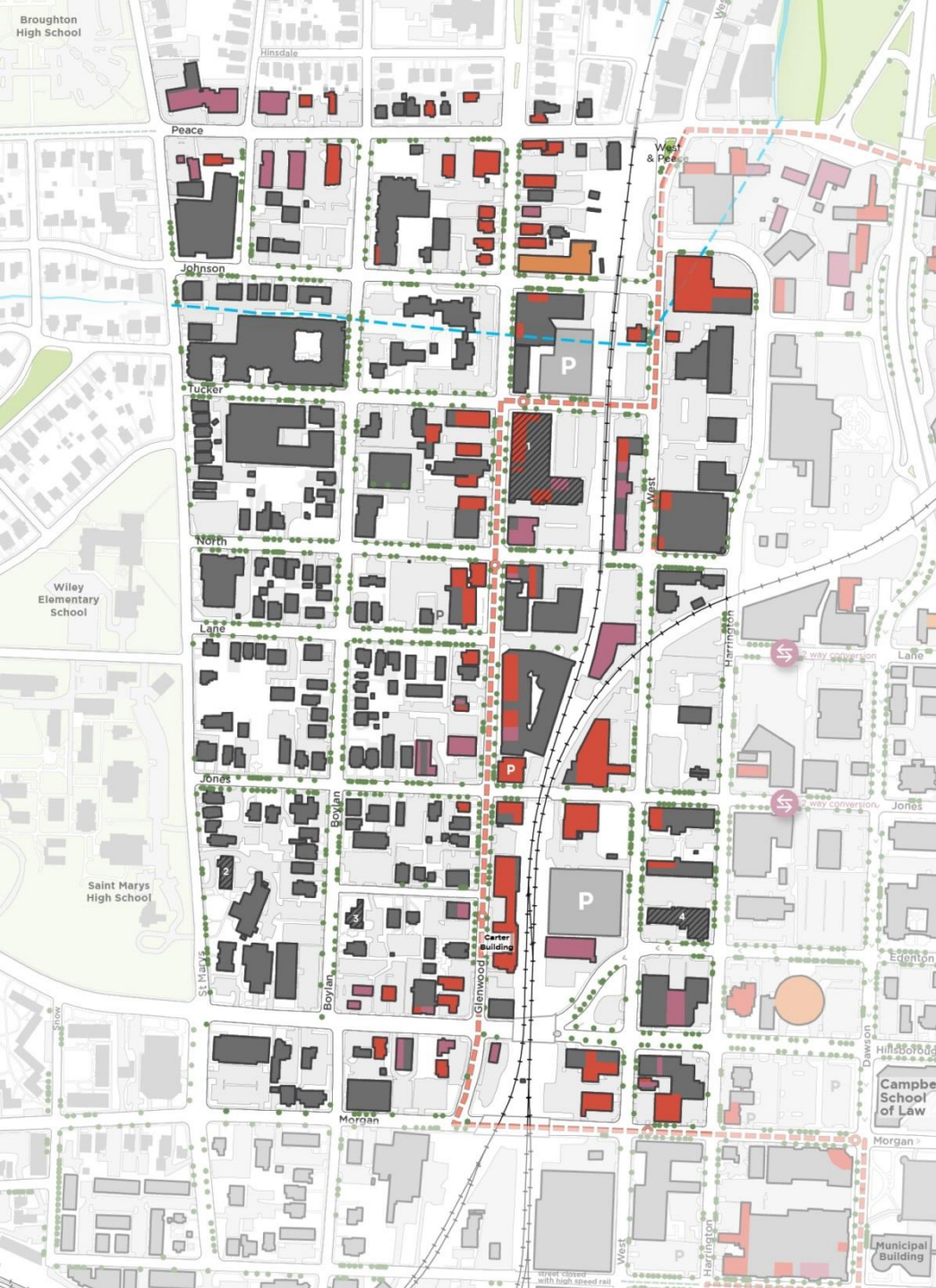
GLENWOOD SOUTH



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GLENWOOD SOUTH

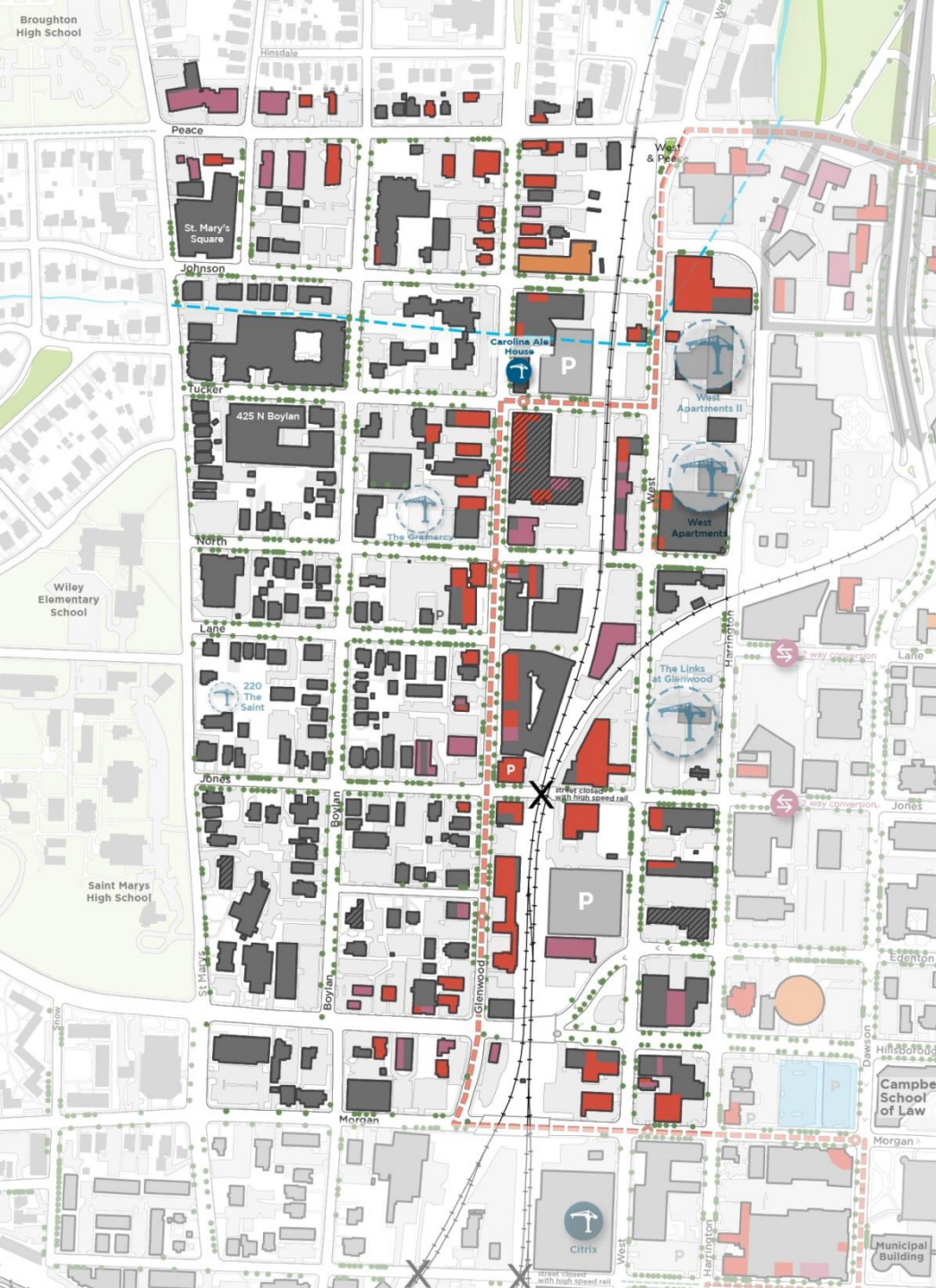


GLENWOOD SOUTH

Characteristics

- Growing residential population
- Limited residential amenities (e.g. green space, dog parks, playgrounds, grocery store/ service retail)
- Tension between entertainment venues and residents (e.g. noise, litter)
- Tenuous connections to Warehouse, Fayetteville and Capital Districts
- More daytime pedestrian visits desired to district businesses



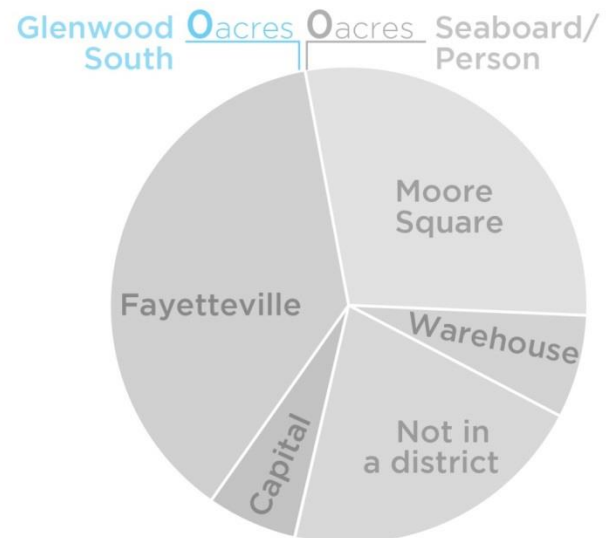


GLENWOOD SOUTH

Opportunities

- New neighborhood green space(s) - Pigeon House Creek
- Capitalize on West Street connection
- More neighborhood/service amenities
- Light rail impacts on streets (closures)
- Improve connections to Cameron Village

City-owned Opportunity Sites



A blue-tinted photograph of a city street. In the foreground, a black car is parked on the right side of the road. Further down the street, a white SUV and a dark car are visible. The street has a double yellow line down the center. On the right, there is a modern building with a 'solas' logo on its upper floor. The text 'Glenwood Ave' is painted on the road surface. The overall scene is a typical urban environment.

WHAT DESIGN FEATURES IMPROVE “MAIN STREETS” OR DESTINATION RETAIL?

NON-"BIG BOX"
GROCERY TYPOLOGY



STREET DESIGN DEFINES DIFFERENT ZONES



Washington, DC

RETRO-FITTED STREET



RETRO-FITTED STREET BEFORE



Greenville, SC

RETRO-FITTED STREET AFTER



Greenville, SC

BUS & SHUTTLE STOPS DESIGN



Health Line BRT, Cleveland OH



HOW CAN WE CREATE MORE
GREEN SPACE & ECOLOGICAL
FUNCTION TO SUPPORT
TODAY'S & FUTURE
RESIDENTS?

URBAN TRAILS

A FLEXIBLE TRAIL FOR MANY CONTEXTS



Photo: Rundell Ernstberger Associates, LLC

A BRANDED, WELL-MARKED TRAIL



Photo: Jun Wang



Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Indianapolis, IN

DEDICATED LANES



Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Indianapolis, IN

LINKED TO TRANSIT



Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Indianapolis, IN

BRANDING & PUBLIC ART



Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Indianapolis, IN

POCKET PARKS ON INFILL LOTS



“Park Room,” New York, NY

PARKING LANE AS PARKS



TEMPORARY EXPANSION OF SIDEWALK



Mississauga, Canada

ROOFTOPS AS PLAYGROUNDS



Yerba Buena, San Francisco. CA

INFORMATIONAL KIOSKS

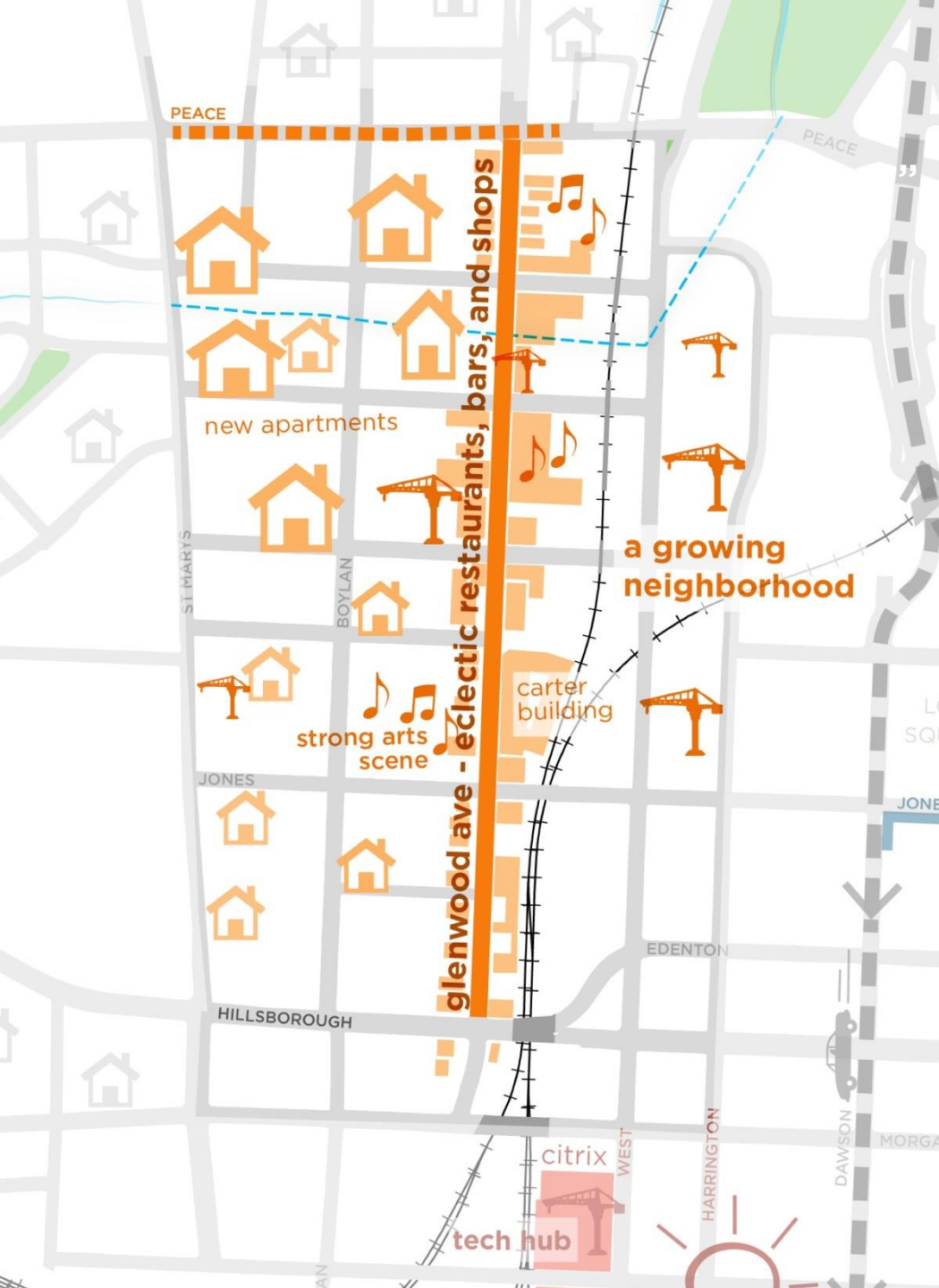


Harbor Park Pavilion, Boston, MA

REVITALIZE FORGOTTEN CREEKS AND WATERWAYS



Reedy River Corridor, Greenville , SC



GLENWOOD SOUTH

District Goals

- What are your goals for the district?

Key Questions

1. What design features improve “main streets” or destination retail?
2. How can we create more green space & ecological function to support today's & future residents?
3. How and where can we improve connections to surroundings?